

# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY + FEBRUARY 1, 2026

## *411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT*

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

ref In Him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025

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***(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)***

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

***(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)***

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## *SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## *OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Micah 6:1–8

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Micah, chapter 6.

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,

and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has an indictment against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?  
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab  
devised,  
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered  
him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,

the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*EPISTLE*

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

**A** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 1.

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the

wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**(Stand)**

*ALLELUIA AND VERSE*

LSB 156

**C** Alleluia.

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

*HOLY GOSPEL*

Matthew 5:1–12

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

5“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

6“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

10“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

*PREFACE*

LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS**

LSB 161

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the  
Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**PRAAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

LSB 161

**P** **Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for  
You have had mercy on those whom You created**

and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\ddagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest

in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

*LORD'S PRAYER*

**C Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.  
Refrain

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee.  
Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.  
Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

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2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
    Casting down their golden crowns around the  
    glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
    Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
    Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not  
    see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
    Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
    All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth  
    and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
    God in three persons, blessegèd Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826

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## *THANK THE LORD*

LSB 164

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell  
ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly  
bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people  
forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## *BENEDICTION*

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be  
gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\ddagger$  give you  
peace.  
**C** Amen.

## *ANNOUNCEMENTS*

### *526 YOU ARE THE WAY; THROUGH YOU ALONE*

1 You are the way; through You alone  
Can we the Father find;

In You, O Christ, has God revealed  
His heart and will and mind.

2 You are the truth; Your Word alone  
True wisdom can impart;

You only can inform the mind

And purify the heart.

3 You are the life; the empty tomb

Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,

And those who put their trust in You

Not death nor hell shall harm.

4 You are the way, the truth, the life;

Grant us that way to know,

That truth to keep, that life to win

Whose joys eternal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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